214 murdered in Rawalpindi district in 1998

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RAWALPINDI, Dec 31: As many as 214 people were murdered, 263 killed in 151 fatal accidents, 46 women were raped, 240 persons were abducted and 622 vehicles (including cars, wagons, motor cycles) were stolen in Rawalpindi district during the year 1998.

One year crime data of the district revealed that 10,735 caseswere registered and crime rate in Rawalpindi was gradually increasing as during 1997 a total of 9,945 cases were registered.

Similarly 18,035 cases were reported from the entire Rawalpindi division in the first nine months of 1998 while 15,841 cases were registered in the division during the same period last year.

In all the four districts of Rawalpindi division, district Rawalpindi stood first in the crime rate where 10,735 cases were filed followed by 3976 in district Attock, 3023 in Jehlum and 2401 in Chakwal.

There were three major incidents of crime witnessed in the city in which 18 people were killed and the loss of property is estimated at Rs 20.2 million.

In one of these incidents some unidentified dacoits struck at Rehmanabad branch of Habib Bank Limited and stole gold ornaments, watches and other valuables from 87 lockers. Police have so far failed to trace the dacoity.

Some six months ago an explosion took place at a store of fire crackers at Narankari Bazaar in which 14 people lost their lives while 65 sustained injuries. Some of the injured are still under medical treatment. The explosion took place due to the negligence of police as despite frequent complaints and cases filed against fire crackers manufacturers and stockists, no practical action was taken against them by police.

In a separate incident, four people including three police personnel and a terrorist were killed in a shootout between them at Peshawar Road on June 20. Two of the terrorist are still at large.

Last year 23 dacoities, 208 robberies and 673 burglaries were committed by the culprits in which they had deprived the people of millions of rupees. However 21 dacoities, 147 robberies and 510 incidents of burglaries were reported in 1997.

One year crime data showed that this year 214 persons were murdered in the entire district and thus twenty more cases of murder were reported this year as compared to 1997. However this year 374 cases were filed for attempt to murder against 288 registered in 1997.

Some 263 people were reportedly killed in 151 fatal accidents during in 1998 against 133 accidents reported in the same span of time last year. This year 282 cases were filed for non-fatal accidents against 277 in 1997. The incidents of abduction also went up in the district as 240 incidents of this crime were reported this year while last year 213 cases were registered under this offence.

This year 46 cases of rape were reported which are less than three cases of the same crime registered in 1997. Three cases were registered for gang rape while there were two cases of same crime reported in 1997 in the district.

The crime report of district Rawalpindi showed that the highest number of cases were registered under the charges of drug addiction and drug smuggling. In this head of crime some 2086 cases were registered during 1998 followed by possession of illegal arms under which 1138 case were filed.

In 1997 a total of 2301 cases were registered for drug addiction and drug smuggling while 1374 were registered for having illegal arms. Almost 300 less cases were registered for drug addiction and drug smuggling which shows slight slackness in the performance of police.

Theft remained fourth among different heads of crimes as under this offence 762 cases were registered and thus 53 more cases were registered this year than theft cases filed in 1997. In 1997, a total of 709 cases were registered for theft in six months.

The incidents of car theft remained quite high in the district and in 1998 as many as 622 cases of vehicles' theft were registered as against 576 incidents in 1997.

The incidents of assault on police were less in 1998 as 64 cases under this offence were registered while 69 cases of same crime were reported in 1997.